

REMARKS

Claims 18-19 and 23-25 are pending in this application. Claims 18 and 19 are amended herein as proposed by the Examiner, for clarity to more particularly define the invention. Support for these amendments is found in the language of the original claims and throughout the specification, as set forth below. Applicants assert that no new matter is added by these amendments and their entry and consideration are respectfully requested. In light of these amendments and the following remarks, applicants respectfully request consideration of this application and allowance of the pending claims.

I. Recordation of Interview Summary

Applicants wish to make of record the Interview Summary prepared and submitted to applicants by Examiner Sitton on September 25, 2007. Applicants concur that this Interview Summary accurately reflects the substance of the personal interview on September 25, 2007, in which Examiner Jehanne Sitton, Examiner Ram Shukla, applicants' representative, Dr. Mary Miller, and inventor, Dr. Redford Williams, participated. Applicants appreciate the opportunity to discuss this application and pending claims with the Examiners.

II. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

The Office Action states that claims 18-19 and 23-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly indefinite in the recitation of "increased." The Examiner then proposes amendments to claims 18 and 19 that would address this rejection.

Claims 18 and 19 are amended herein pursuant to the Examiner's suggestions and thus, this rejection has been overcome and applicants respectfully request its withdrawal.

III. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 (enablement)

The Office Action states that claims 18-19 and 23-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly lacking enablement.

As discussed during the September 25, 2007 interview and pursuant to subsequent telephone correspondence with Examiner Sitton, provided herewith is a Declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.132 of inventor, Dr. Redford Williams, providing data, as requested by the Examiner, demonstrating that the methods as claimed herein are applicable for both males and females. Thus, applicants believe this rejection has been overcome and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

IV. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

A. The Office Action states that claims 18-19 and 23-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by Arinami et al. The Examiner also proposes claim amendments that will overcome this rejection.

Although applicants traverse this rejection for the reasons set forth in their previous response, in the interest of expediting prosecution of this application to issue, claims 18 and 19 are amended herein pursuant to the Examiner's suggestions. Thus, this rejection has been overcome and applicants respectfully request its withdrawal.

B. The Office Action states that claims 18-19 and 23-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(e) and 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by either Comings I or Comings II. The Examiner also proposes claim amendments that will overcome this rejection.

Claims 18 and 19 are amended herein pursuant to the Examiner's suggestions. Thus, this rejection has been overcome and applicants respectfully request its withdrawal.

C. The Office Action states that claims 18, 19 and 23-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by Hanna et al. The Examiner also proposes claim amendments that will overcome this rejection.

Although applicants traverse this rejection for the reasons set forth in their previous response, in the interest of expediting prosecution of this application to issue, claims 18 and 19 are amended herein pursuant to the Examiner's suggestions. Thus, this rejection has been overcome and applicants respectfully request its withdrawal.

V. Response to arguments regarding priority claim to the '390 provisional application

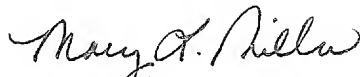
The Office Action states that the '390 application has not been found to support the claims as pending at the time this Office Action was issued.

Applicants respectfully traverse this conclusion and reserve the right to raise this issue on appeal to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the applicants respectfully request that all outstanding rejections to the claims be withdrawn and that a Notice of Allowance be issued in due course. The Examiner is invited and encouraged to contact the undersigned directly if such contact will expedite the prosecution of the pending claims to issue. In the event that the Examiner fails to find allowable subject matter upon review of the claims and remarks as presented herein, the applicants respectfully request a telephone interview with the Examiner prior to the issuance of any further actions for this application.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-0220 in the amount of \$525.00 as fee for a three-month extension of time for a small entity. This amount is believed to be correct. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0220.

Respectfully submitted,

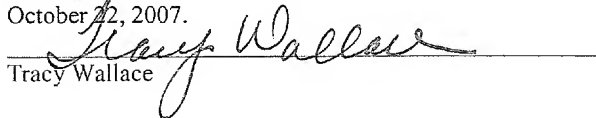


Mary L. Miller
Registration No. 39,303

USPTO Customer No. 20792
Myers Bigel Sibley & Sajovec
Post Office Box 37428
Raleigh, North Carolina 27627
Telephone (919) 854-1400
Facsimile (919) 854-1401

CERTIFICATION OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via the Office electronic filing system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4) to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on October 22, 2007.


Tracy Wallace